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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/690,136	10/21/2003	James V. Miller	P00991-US-00 (25490.0028)	3634
22446	7590	01/26/2006		EXAMINER
ICE MILLER LLP ONE AMERICAN SQUARE, SUITE 3100 INDIANAPOLIS, IN 46282-0200				PUROL, DAVID M
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
				3634

DATE MAILED: 01/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/690,136	MILLER, JAMES V.
	Examiner David M. Purol	Art Unit 3634

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 November 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-6,10-12,14-18,23-34,36,37,39 and 40 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 3,4,6,14,15,26-33,36 and 37 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1,2,5,10-12,16-18,23-25,34,39,40 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
  1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1,2,10,11,16-18,23,24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Kessous. Kessous discloses a shutter comprising a curtain 140, filaments 240a,240b,195, and tensioning devices 241a,b; 242a,b; 210a,b.

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5,12,25,34,39,40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kessous. Regarding the claim language setting forth the use of first and second track guides, note that Kessous clearly recognizes and discloses in column 1, lines 40-67 and column 2, lines 1-6 that the use of first and second track guides is well known in the art of shutter curtains. Accordingly, no patentable weight can be attributed to the use of track guides.

3. The applicant requests that the Examiner withdraw the restriction requirement and the withdrawal from consideration of claims 3,4,6,14,15,26-33,36,37. However, the

applicant has previously elected Species VI without traverse as noted in paragraph 1 of the Official Office action in paper no. 06272005.

The applicant argues that in Kessous the holes cannot be used as tensioning devices. This is not convincing for the attachment points 241a,b;242a,b fully responds to the claimed tensioning device inasmuch as the claims of the instant application fail to set forth any structure of which the tensioning device might comprise. The engagement of the filaments 240a,b with the attachment points as set forth in Kessous provides the function of tensioning the filaments in a predetermined position for this is their explicit purpose.

The applicant states that the fastening straps 210a,b of Kessous apply force to the fabric 140 and not to the leashing means 240a,b. However, the springs 210a,b of Kessous being attached to the ends of bar 195, in which the bar 195 fully responds to the recited filament and/or strengthening means insofar as defined by these claims, provide the function of tensioning for this is their explicit purpose.

Applicant's arguments have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

**4. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to David M. Purol  
at telephone number (571) 272-6833.

  
**David M. Purol**  
**Primary Examiner**  
**Art Unit 3634**

DMP  
(571) 272-6833  
January 20, 2006